



U.S. Department of Justice

Southern District of Indiana

United States Attorney

10 West Market Street

(317) 226-6333

*Suite 2100
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3048*

TDD (317) 226-5438

*FAX NUMBERS:
Criminal (317) 226-6125
Administration (317) 226-5176
Civil (317) 226-5027
FLU (317) 226-6133
OCDETF (317) 226-5953*

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CONTACT PERSON:

SUSAN W. BROOKS
United States Attorney
(317) 226-6333

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

INDIANA MAN SENTENCED FOR DISTRIBUTING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, and Assistant Attorney General Alice S. Fisher of the Criminal Division of the United States Department of Justice, announced that STEVEN M. DECKER, age 31, of Kokomo, Indiana, was sentenced today to 151 months imprisonment by U.S. District Judge Larry J. McKinney of the Southern District of Indiana. DECKER's sentence followed his May 3, 2006 guilty plea to one count of distributing child pornography. This case resulted from an investigation by the Indiana Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Indiana State Police, the Kokomo Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, following a lead from the German National Police (BKA).

On March 13, 2005, DECKER distributed computer images of child pornography to undercover BKA agents through an Internet file server he configured and operated. DECKER

distributed the images in an Internet Relay Chat channel used by offenders to distribute images showing the sexual abuse of very young children as well as older children. Forensic examination of his computer showed that 754 persons visited DECKER's file server and could access his large collection of child pornography. During a search of his Kokomo residence, law enforcement officers recovered 341 image files identified by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children as showing actual known victims of sexual exploitation.

According to Steven D. DeBrot, an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, and Jill Trumbull-Harris, a Trial Attorney with the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section of the Department of Justice, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge McKinney also imposed a life term of supervised release following DECKER's imprisonment. DECKER must register as a sex offender, must seek treatment in a sex offender program, and must not have unsupervised contact with minors. DECKER's use of any computer will also be subject to monitoring while he is on supervised release.

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